



# TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SALEM 104-9**

**Dec. 18, 2009**

**ROADWATCH: Weeks of Dec. 19, 2009 – Jan. 8, 2010**

**NOTE: This release covers traffic information for three weeks.**

To ease travel during the holidays, the Virginia Department of Transportation will suspend lane closures for construction and maintenance work on interstate, primary and major secondary routes around the state. All travel lanes will be open beginning at noon Wednesday, Dec. 23 through Sunday, Dec. 27 and again from noon Thursday, Dec. 31 through Sunday, Jan. 3, 2010. Long-term construction zones with concrete barriers or orange barrels will remain in place.

To take the guesswork out of your holiday travel plans, VDOT always encourages motorists to call 511 or visit [www.511Virginia.org](http://www.511Virginia.org) for real-time traffic information. The following is a list of highway projects that may affect traffic in the 12-county Salem Transportation District during the next week. New information is noted by "###".

## **INTERSTATE 81**

**### \* INTERSTATE 81 BRIDGE OVER ROUTE 8 REPAIRS** – Weather permitting, crews will repair the I-81 bridge over Route 8 at exit 114 (Christiansburg). Starting in early 2010, work will cause periodic lane closures beneath the bridge on northbound and southbound Route 8 during nighttime hours from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m.

**### \* INTERSTATE 81 DRAINAGE WORK** – Weather permitting, crews will clean out drainage ditches along southbound I-81 in Montgomery County between mile markers 130.5 and 147 and in Botetourt County along northbound and southbound I-81 between mile markers 150 and 168. Work may cause alternating shoulder closures during daylight hours on weekdays.

## **ROANOKE**

**### \* INTERSTATE 581 SHOULDER REPAIRS** – Work to repair shoulders along northbound I-581 will cause a right shoulder closures at mile markers 4 and 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays. Additional shoulder closures may be in place during nighttime hours.

**### \* INTERSTATE 581 BRIDGE OVER PETERS CREEK ROAD INSPECTION** – Weather permitting, on Tuesday, Dec. 22, the Peters Creek Road bridge over I-581 will be inspected during nighttime hours. The inspection will cause various lane closures on northbound and southbound I-581 between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. the following morning.

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## **ROANOKE COUNTY**

**### \* COLONIAL AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS** – Work is under way to improve the 0.5-mile section of Colonial Avenue starting just west Route 687 (Penn Forest Boulevard) and extending to Route 419. Periodic lane closures may be in place at times in the work zone. After Dec. 23, work will end and resume in early 2010. Estimated completion is August 2010.

**\* ROUTE 220 CURB AND SHOULDER REPAIR** – Work is underway on shoulders along northbound Route 220 between Route 674 (Clearbrook Lane) and Route 789 (Old Rocky Mount Road). Shoulder closures may be in place during daylight hours between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**\* ROUTE 1034 CUL-DE-SAC INSTALLATION** - Weather permitting, crews will be installing a cul-de-sac at the end of Route 1034 (Chest Mountain Road). Drivers should watch for crews working in the right of way.

**\* ROUTE 623 SHOULDER CLOSURE** – Weather permitting, the shoulder will be closed along Route 623 (Dent Road) between Airport Road and Route 822 (Pendleton Avenue) during daylight hours between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays.

**\* ROUTE 1315 (BRIDLE LANE )AND ROUTE 613 (MERRIMAN ROAD) UTILITY WORK** – Weather permitting, utility work will cause lane closures at locations on Route 1315 (Bridle Lane) and Route 613 (Merriman Road). Work may impact traffic during daylight hours on weekdays between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

## **BEDFORD COUNTY**

**### \* ROUTE 643 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT** – A section of Route 643 (Jopling Road) is closed to through traffic, so the bridge over Branch Suck Run can be replaced. The section of Route 643 extends between its intersections with Route 675 (Keytown Road) and Route 849 (Mine Road). **Weather permitting, work is anticipated to be completed, and the road reopened to traffic by Monday, Dec. 21.** Detour signs are in place directing traffic to use Route 675 or Route 640 (Forbes Mill Road) to Route 122 around the closure.

**### \* SHOULDER WORK** – Weather permitting, crews may work on shoulders or ditches along on various roads in Bedford County. Watch for possible lane closures or flaggers directing traffic during daylight hours on weekdays on:

- Various secondary roads in the New London and Big Island area
- Route 608 in the Smith Mountain Lake area
- Route 122 between Route 501 and Route 637
- Route 43 in the Big Island area
- Route 747 in the Irving area

**### \* BRUSH CUTTING (VARIOUS ROUTES)** – Weather permitting, crews will cut brush along various routes. Watch for workers and equipment along the shoulders and possible lane closures during daylight hours on weekdays along the following roads:

- Route 793 and Route 805 in the Smith Mountain Lake area
- Route 736, Route 697, and Route 745 in the Irving area

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### \* **ROUTE 697 PIPE REPAIR** – Weather permitting, flaggers may direct traffic on Route 697 during daylight hours on weekdays due to a pipe replacement.

### **BOTETOURT COUNTY**

\* **ROUTE 11 SHOULDER WORK** – Weather permitting, shoulder work along Route 11 between Route 715 (Montgomery Lane) and Buchanan and between Route 606 (Blue Ridge Turnpike) may cause lane closures during daylight hours on weekdays. Watch for signs and possible lane closures between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

\* **ROUTE 220 SHOULDER WORK** – Weather permitting, lane closures may be in place on weekdays during daylight hours on northbound and southbound Route 220 due to shoulder work at the entrance to Orchard Market Place. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

### **CARROLL COUNTY**

\* **ROUTE 58 HILLSVILLE BRIDGE WORK** – As part of the current Hillsville Bypass construction project, a change in traffic pattern is in place on Route 58 in Hillsville. The eastbound Route 58 bridge over Little Reed Island Creek is closed for reconstruction. The bridge is located near Gardner Mill Road between the west limits of Hillsville and Interstate 77. The bridge is being widened, and the riding surface replaced. Route 58 traffic is reduced to one lane in each direction and shifted into the westbound lanes for about 0.8 mile, and the speed limit is reduced to 35 mph.

\* **ROUTE 58 HILLSVILLE BYPASS CONSTRUCTION** – Drivers on Route 58, Route 52, Route 703 (Gardner's Mill Road) and Route 780 (Howlett Street) can expect periodic lane closures with flaggers directing traffic between 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on weekdays. The speed limit on Route 52 is reduced to 25 mph starting 0.1 mile south of Archa Street (Route 1007) in Hillsville and extending to 0.5 mile north of the Hillsville town limits in Carroll County. Drivers should watch for new traffic patterns around the Route 58 and Gardner's Mill Road intersection. The speed limit on Route 58 starting 0.7 mile west of Gardner's Mill Road is reduced to 35 mph. The speed limit on Route 58 (Danville Pike) west of Hillsville between Route 669 (Spring Hollow Road) and Route 670 (Snake Creek Road) is reduced to 45 mph. The speed limit on Route 58 on the east end of the project is reduced to 35 mph from just west of Route 699 (Spring Hollow Road) to Route 666 (Merrimack Road). Drivers should expect possible delays.

### **CRAIG COUNTY**

\* **ROUTE 311 PAVEMENT MARKING** – Weather permitting, crews will mark pavement on Route 311. Drivers should watch for mobile lane closures and pay attention to signs. Work will be performed on weekdays during daylight hours.

### **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

### \* **ROUTE 40 SLOPE REPAIR** – Weather permitting, crews will repair a slope along Route 40. Watch for shoulder closures and possible lane closures on weekdays between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

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### \* **SHOULDER WORK (VARIOUS ROUTES)** – Crews will be working on various road shoulders or ditches between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on weekdays. Watch for lane or shoulder closures along the following routes:

- Route 619 (Fanny Cook Road)
- Route 623 (Fairystone Park Road)
- Route 640 (Five Mile Mountain Road)
- Route 666 (Merriman Way Road)
- Route 767 (Prillaman Switch Road)
- Route 781 (Ramblin Rose Road)

### \* **BRUSH CUTTING (VARIOUS ROUTES)** – Crews will be cutting brush on various roads in Franklin County between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on weekdays. Watch for flaggers directing traffic and possible lane closures on the following roads:

- Route 629 (Hatchett Road)
- Route 636 (Hardy Road)
- Route 652 (Circle Creek Road)
- Route 666 (Merriman Way Road)
- Route 834 (Brooks Mill Road)
- Route 890 (Snow Creek Road)
- Route 969 (Danville Turnpike)

### **GILES COUNTY**

\* **ROUTE 460 PAVEMENT MARKING** – Weather permitting, crews will paint pavement markings on eastbound and westbound Route 460 in Giles County. Work may cause periodic mobile lane closures during daylight hours.

### **HENRY COUNTY**

\* **ROUTE 220 BUSINESS BRIDGE REPLACEMENT** – Work to replace the Route 220 Business bridge over the railroad tracks is underway. The bridge is located near the Route 87 intersection in Ridgeway. Route 220 Business is closed from Route 639 to Mica Road. Motorists should seek alternate routes around the closure. Drivers should also watch for flaggers on Route 682 at its intersection with Route 701.

\* **ROUTE 701 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT** – The Route 701 (Field Avenue) bridge over the Smith River is closed to traffic. The old, iron bridge is located in Fieldale between Route 57 and Route 682 (River Road). The bridge is closed, so it can be demolished and replaced. Traffic is being detoured between Route 701 and Route 57 onto Route 682 and Route 609. To improve traffic flow and reduce congestion, the traffic pattern on the detour route at the intersection of Route 609 (South Daniels Creek Road) and Route 682 has been changed. Traffic on Route 609 is no longer required to stop at its intersection with Route 682. Instead, new stop signs have been installed requiring Route 682 traffic to stop at this intersection. This week, flagging operations will be utilized on Route 57 adjacent to the old bridge on either side of the railroad tracks. Estimated completion is November 2010.

### **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

### \* **ROUTE 460 BYPASS DRAINAGE WORK** – Weather permitting, crews may work on drainage basins along the eastbound and westbound Route 460 Bypass. Shoulder closures may be in place during daylight hours on weekdays.

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**\* ROUTE 114 WIDENING** – Work continues to widen a section of Route 114 (Peppers Ferry Road) in Christiansburg. The section of Route 114 extends between Stafford Street and Chrisman Mill Road near New River Valley Mall. Work will include widening Route 114 from two lanes to five, with two through lanes in each direction and a center turn lane. Traffic has been switched onto a new section of roadway and drivers should expect possible lane closures between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Shoulder closures are in place. Flaggers may direct traffic during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for new traffic patterns in this work zone.

**### \* ROUTE 679 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT** – A section of Route 679 (Nolley Road) will be closed to through traffic starting Monday, Jan. 4, so the bridge over Elliot Creek can be replaced. Nolley Road will be closed at its intersection with Route 669 (Union Valley Road). Detour signs will be in place directing traffic to use Route 615 (Pilot Road) and Route 669 around the closure. Work is anticipated to be completed, and the road reopened to traffic by Monday, Jan. 18.

### **PATRICK COUNTY**

**\* ROUTE 8 CONNECTOR / RYE COVE STREET CLOSURE** – As part of the Route 8 connector construction, a section of Rye Cove Street will be reconfigured and will no longer be a through road. Rye Cove Street (T-1006) between Buena Vista Avenue and Rucker Street in Stuart is permanently closed to through traffic.

### **PULASKI COUNTY**

**### \* ROUTE 693 CORE SAMPLING** – Weather permitting, starting Tuesday, Jan.5, VDOT will be taking soil and pavement samples on a section of Route 693 (Lead Mine Road). Flaggers and pilot trucks will control traffic on the section of Route 693 between its intersections with Route 672 (Lowmans Ferry Road) and Route 669 (Cecils Chapel Road). Drivers can expect possible delays each day, Tuesday, Jan. 5 through Friday, Jan.8, between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Additional lane closures may be scheduled for the week of Jan. 11 through 14 if needed.

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